

Under the Auspices of
His Excellency André Coulbary
Ambassador of Senegal to the United States

Mel Howard

presents

THE
NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY
OF SENEGAL

Founded in 1960
Under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture of Senegal

MAURICE SONAR SENGHOR
Director General

Tuesday, November 19, 1974

8:00 p.m.

CRAMTON AUDITORIUM
Howard University Campus

PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION TO RHYTHM

A presentation of the numerous and subtle variations of the beat of the *tam-tam*.

SENO

A dance from Toubacouta in the Serese section of West Africa where the villagers work in collective fields.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE WITH THE CORA

The *cora* is a Sengalese instrument with twenty-one strings.

YARADAL

In this dance of fertility, a young woman consults the village wiseman who has the power to make her union fruitful.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE WITH THE BALAFON

The *balafon* is a traditional instrument of East Senegal with a sound similar to that of the piano.

DIANKEY WALI

A ballet by *Maurice Sonar Senghor*, assisted by *Mamadou M'Baye* from a true story told by *Abdoulaye Camara*.

After a winter of abundant rains, the villagers anticipate a good year. They gather in the square to celebrate and give thanks to the heavens. Kimintan, a rich merchant, notices Niara among the young girls and tries to attract her attention. She pretends to ignore him. Eventually he convinces Niara to dance with him and her parents to grant her hand in marriage. Niara is already betrothed to a fisherman called Bakari, but her parents break off the engagement. Bakari goes in fury to the god Diolas, demanding vengeance. Some weeks later, when the marriage is about to take place, Kimintan becomes demented. The villagers attempt to save him by means of exorcism.

Scene I: The village festival. Kimintan sees Niara for the first time.

Scene II: Bakari invokes Diolas, asking revenge.

Scene III: Niara's friends help her prepare for marriage. The exorcism ceremony.

INTERMISSION

BOUGA RABOU

Prelude to the harvest festivities.

KOUMPO

Before the drought in the countries of the Sahel, the end of the winter rainy season was the occasion for a harvest celebration like this one, from the village of Niombato. The harvest is represented by a human haystack, which turns to the rhythm of the *tam-tam*.

THE ACROBATIC PEULHS

The *Foulas* of Oriental Senegal come from the foothills of Fouta Djallon and travel as nomads through the country. They are renowned as acrobats.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

KORELA

N'Deye Coumba, *tam-tam* virtuoso, leads these joyous ritual dances.

FINALE

Program subject to change.



The use of cameras or any kind of recording equipment is not permitted in the auditorium. Latecomers will be seated only during suitable intervals in the program.



THE NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY OF SENEGAL

DIRECTOR GENERAL	<i>Maurice Sonar Senghor</i>
DIRECTOR	<i>Mamadou M'Baye</i>
ADMINISTRATOR	<i>Babacar M'Bengue</i>
COMMITTEE DIRECTORS	<i>Abdoulaye Camara, Fanta Toure, Rokhaya N'Doye, Djimo Kouyate, Modou Fall</i>

The folklore and legends were researched, and the troupe created by *Maurice Sonar Senghor* and *Mamadou M'Baye*.

Costumes were made in the studios of the Théâtre Daniel Sorano in Dakar by *Line Senghor*, assisted by *Abdoulaye Camara*.

Stage Manager: Djimo Kouyate

Tour Manager for Mel Howard: Atlee Stephan III

with

Ibrahima Cisse	Nona Badji
Fanta Toure	Coumba Ba
Fokhaya N'Doye	Mamadou Diallo
Mamadou Fall	Ousmane Seydi
Octave Sa	Sékou Kande
Bakary Goudiaby	M'Baye Niang
Samba Diallo	Mamadou Diakhate
Abass Badji	Djiby Traore
Joséphine Zambo	Idrissa Gueye
Ami Djire	Madiakhate M'Boup
Sokhna Dione	Ibrahima Signate
Fatou Ly	Souleye Diop
Madjiguène Sow	Ousmane Traore
Khady N'Gom	Mamadou Konate
Mariemme N'Gom	Abdoulaye Diallo
Abdoulaye Diakhate	Abdoulaye Thior
Malick Sylla	Abdoulaye Diack
Samba Bella Sall	Abdoulaye Diouf
Amara N'Diaye	

Exclusive World Management: Bureau de Concerts Gerard Sayaret

U.S. Tour Management: Mel Howard